

Isaiah

“The Evangelical Prophet”

VI. Isaiah’s Divine *Prophecies* of Consolation for **Israel** (40:1-48:22)

G. The *Preeminence* of the God of Israel (45:1-48:22)

1. The *Elevation* of King Cyrus (45:1-4)
2. The *Excellence* of the Sovereign God (45:5-13)
3. The *End-time Conversion* of the Gentiles (45:14-25)
4. The *Exceeding Power* of God (46:1-13)
5. The *Expulsion* of the Babylonian Empire (47:1-15)

6. The *Enduring Faithfulness* of **Israel’s God** (48:1-16)

- a. *Whose* followers (**Israel**) claim **belief** in **Him**, but *walk* in unrighteousness (48:1-2)

48 “Hear this, O house of **Jacob**, who are named **Israel**
and who *came forth* from the **loins of Judah**,
who *swear* by the name of the **LORD**
and *invoke* the **God of Israel**,
but not in truth nor in righteousness.

²“For they **call themselves** after the holy city
and *lean* on the **God of Israel**;
the **LORD of hosts** is **His name**.

- b. *Who* has faithfully brought to pass things prophesied
from “long ago” (48:3-5)

- 1) As a **testimony** to an **obstinate** and **hardened Israel** (48:3-4)
- 2) As a **hopeful deterrent** to a people prone to idolatry (48:5)

³“I **declared** the former **things long ago**
and they went forth from **My mouth**, and I **proclaimed** them.
Suddenly I **acted**, and they came to pass.

⁴“Because I know that you are **obstinate**, and your **neck** is an **iron sinew** and your **forehead bronze**,

⁵ **therefore** I declared *them* to you **long ago**,
before they took place I **proclaimed** *them* to you,

so that you would **not say**, ‘**My idol** has done them,
and **my graven image** and my **molten image** have **commanded them**.’

c. **Who** now **predicts** “**new things**” that were previously **hidden** (48:6-8)

- 1) So that **Israel cannot claim** to have **previously known** them (48:6-7)
- 2) So that **Israel** would **not** deal “**treacherously**” (48:8)

⁶“You have **heard**; look at **all this**.
And you, will you **not declare** it?”

I proclaim to you **new things** from **this time**,
even **hidden things** which you have **not known**.

⁷“They are **created now** and **not long ago**;
and before today you have **not** heard them,
so that you will **not say**, ‘Behold, I **knew** them.’”

⁸“You have **not heard**, you have **not known**.
Even from **long ago** your ear has **not been open**,
because I knew that **you** would deal very **treacherously**;
and you have been called **a rebel** from **birth**.”

d. **Who** has **delayed His wrath** for **His name’s sake** (48:9-11)

- 1) **Restraining it** that **Israel** may **not** be “**cut off**” (48:9)
- 2) **Refining Israel** through a “**furnace of affliction**” (48:10)
- 3) **Responding** in the way that will maintain **His glory** (48:11)

⁹“For the **sake** of **My name** I **delay My wrath**,
and for **My praise** I **restrain it** for you,
in order **not** to **cut you off**.”

¹⁰“Behold, I have **refined you**, but **not as silver**;
I have **tested you** in the **furnace of affliction**.”

¹¹“For **My own sake**, for **My own sake**, I will act;
for how can **My name** be **profaned**?
And **My glory** I will **not** give to another.”

e. **Who** in **faithfulness** has accomplished **His sovereign** and **eternal purposes** (48:12-16)

¹²“**Listen to Me, O Jacob**, even **Israel** whom **I called**;
I am **He**, I am the **first**, I am also the **last**.

¹³“Surely **My hand** founded the **earth**,
and **My right hand** spread out the **heavens**;
when I **call** to them, they **stand together**.

¹⁴“**Assemble**, all of you, and **listen!**
Who among them has **declared** these **things**?

The **LORD loves him**; he will carry out **His good pleasure** on **Babylon**,
and **His arm will be against** the **Chaldeans**.

¹⁵“**I, even I**, have spoken; indeed I have **called him**,
I have **brought him**, and **He** will make his **ways successful**.

¹⁶“**Come near to Me**, **listen** to this:
from the **first** I have **not** spoken **in secret**,
from the time it took place, **I was there**.
And now **the Lord GOD** has **sent Me**, and **His Spirit**.”

Personal Application

Reflecting on the **Faithfulness** of **God**

The **LORD's lovingkindnesses** indeed **never cease**,
For **His compassions never fail**.
They are new every morning;
Great is Your faithfulness. (Lamentations 3:22-23)

Know therefore that the **LORD your God, He is God**, the **faithful God**,
who **keeps His covenant** and **His lovingkindness** to a **thousandth generation**
with those who **love Him** and **keep His commandments**; (Deuteronomy 7:9)

Not one of the **good promises** which **the LORD** had made
to the house of **Israel failed**; **all came to pass**. (Joshua 21:45)

Your faithfulness continues throughout **all generations**;
You established the earth, and **it stands**. (Psalm 119:90)

O LORD, how many are Your works!
In wisdom You have *made* them all;
the earth is full of Your possessions.

There is the sea, great and broad, in which are *swarms*
without number, animals both small and great...

They all wait for You to *give them* their food
in due season. (Psalm 104:24-25, 27)

O LORD, You are my God;
I will exalt You, I will give thanks to Your name;
for You have worked *wonders*,
Plans *formed long ago*, with perfect faithfulness. (Isaiah 25:1)

God is faithful, through whom you were *called* into fellowship
with His Son, Jesus Messiah our Lord. (I Corinthians 1:9)

No temptation has overtaken you but such as is common to man;
and God is faithful, who will not allow you
to be tempted *beyond* what you are able,

but with the temptation will *provide* the way of escape also,
so that you will be able to *endure it*. (I Corinthians 10:13)

But the Lord is faithful, and He will *strengthen* and *protect you*
from the *evil one*. (II Thessalonians 3:3)

By faith even Sarah herself *received* ability to conceive,
even *beyond* the proper time of life,
since she considered Him faithful who had promised. (Hebrews 11:11)

Therefore, those also who suffer according to the will of God
shall entrust their souls to a faithful Creator
in doing what is right. (I Peter 4:19)

And I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse,
and He who sat on it is called Faithful and True,
and in *righteousness* He judges and wages war. (Revelation 19:11)

Closing Comments